



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY AWARENESS MONTH

- WHEREAS: Muscular dystrophy is not a single disease or disorder that affects everyone in the same way, but an umbrella term that encompasses more than nine types of muscular diseases and 43 types of neuromuscular diseases varying in severity; and
- WHEREAS: All muscular dystrophies result in progressive muscle weakness, ranging from mild muscle weakness to complete paralysis of all voluntary muscles, including those used for breathing and swallowing; and
- WHEREAS: More than one million individuals in the United States are affected by one of the forms of muscular dystrophy. Muscular dystrophy diseases can affect anyone, regardless of race, sex, age, or ethnicity; and
- WHEREAS: Research has recently yielded four new drugs, more than in the previous five decades, for treating four types of muscular diseases; and
- WHEREAS: It is essential to increase public awareness of muscular dystrophy in order to facilitate the discovery of treatments and cures, while also generating additional funding to better support and serve families affected by neuromuscular diseases. Muscular Dystrophy Awareness Month and Light it up Green for MD Month provides a unique opportunity to educate the public on muscular dystrophy and other issues affecting the muscular dystrophy community; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim August 2017 as MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY AWARENESS MONTH in Georgia and join in recognizing LIGHT IT UP GREEN FOR MD MONTH.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 1<sup>st</sup> day of June in the year of our Lord two thousand seventeen.



*Nathan Deal*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Chris W. Riley*

CHIEF OF STAFF